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934th Airlift Wing,  
Air Force Reserve Command,  
Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport  
Air Reserve Station, Minn.

# VIKING FLYER



Senior Airman Clifford Larson

## Airmen of the Year

Top enlisted members  
honored as wing's  
'best of the best'

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**Senior Airman Clifford Larson**,  
Photographers

## On the cover

**Staff Sgt. Harry Nesje**, 27th Aerial Port Squadron, achieved honors as the wing's outstanding airman of the year. For more on this year's winners, see Pages 6-7.



Senior Airman Clifford Larson

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## News on the run ...

- **March lunch entrees:** Saturday, **beef stroganoff/deep-fried fish**, Sunday, **barbecued chicken/meat loaf**.
- **March breakfast:** Saturday, omelets available; Sunday, eggs any style.
- **UTAs:** **April 1-2**, May 6-7, June 3-4, July 8-9, Aug. 5-6, Sept. 9-10
- **March UTA pay date:** **March 15**

## Commentary

# Planning begins

## Staff assistance visit demands thorough preparation

**Col. Dean Despinoy**  
Wing Commander

**D**uring our June unit training assembly, there will be a team from 22nd Air Force, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., conducting a staff assistance visit.

By design, the SAV is not an inspection but rather an opportunity to have another set of eyes look at your program for compliance and completeness. The 95-person team will arrive May 31 and will be with us through the end of the UTA, departing June 4.

Although not an inspection, we are still interested in showing headquarters the great programs in existence here at the 934th. I also ask that the SAV act as a catalyst for people throughout the wing to make sure the programs of interest are back on the "front burner." Please work together as information comes to you concerning their visit and be prepared to help in supporting the team while they are here.

There are several steps everyone needs to address now and continue to address until the team arrives. I have broken these recommended tasks into blocks corresponding to the UTAs.

### March UTA:

- 1) Request checklists from functional area managers at 22nd AF and Air Force Reserve Command
- 2) Review checklists available on the AFRC Web page
- 3) Review 1998 Unit Compliance Inspection findings and report status to the wing executive officer
- 4) Identify any additional

areas you would like 22nd AF to look at during their visit

### April UTA:

- 1) Complete checklists you received from 22nd AF and/or AFRC



Despinoy

- 2) Review Special Interest Items
- 3) Identify any corrective action and annotate in the Self-Inspection Tracking System
- 4) Develop a desktop briefing to be given to the SAV member
- 5) Identify any traditional civilian members who need to work on Saturday of the June UTA
- 6) Identify any traditional reservist, with availability, who will need to work on Thursday and/or Friday before the June UTA

### May UTA:

- 1) Make a final review of all the checklists and SAV preparations
- 2) Ensure that "key program personnel" will be available to talk with the SAV team member. Have a backup if the primary person has an emergency and is unable to attend the June UTA

- 3) Reschedule work weeks for June, as appropriate

### June UTA:

- 1) Meet with SAV team member
- 2) Be proud and enthusiastic
- 3) Learn all you can
- 4) Make your program better from the SAV experience

If you have the above listed items completed by the close of business of that UTA, you are "on the glide path" for a smooth and productive SAV. □

# Avoid Web of temptation

## Abusing Internet, e-mail leads to career-ending consequences

**Brig. Gen. Gilbert Regan**

Air Mobility Command Staff Judge Advocate

**I** want to highlight an issue that has effectively ended the otherwise promising careers of several individuals in our command. The issue is misuse of a government computer. My message in this regard is simple and clear — don't do it!

With the rapid growth in the World Wide Web, the Internet and electronic mail, the temptation and the opportunity to misuse a government computer have grown exponentially. From our desktop computers, we now have almost unlimited access to Web sites around the globe. This new technology has brought many great benefits for the Air Force; at the same time, abuse of this technology — and the Air Force's ability to detect abuse — have also grown.

The rules regarding computer use are set forth in Air Force Instruction 33-119, *Electronic Mail (e-mail) Management and Use*; and AFI 33-129, *Transmission of Information Via the Internet*. These rules are also contained in the Department of Defense Joint Ethics Regulation. Here are some highlights you can cut out and place by your computer as a reminder.

### **Top 10 "Do Nots" on a Government Computer Do Not:**

- Retrieve, view, download or send sexually-explicit, obscene or offensive material.
- Visit Internet chat rooms or open discussion forums, unless officially sanctioned.
- Use your computer for personal financial gain, such as auction-type sales or stock trades.
- Send/receive personal e-mail, except as authorized by your supervisor in accordance with AFI 33-119.
- Send harassing, intimidating, abusive or offensive material to or about others.

- Install unofficial software or software in violation of the vendor's license.
- Use another person's account or identity without authorization.
- Permit any unauthorized individual access.
- Store/process classified material on an unclassified system.
- View, change, damage, delete or block another's access to files/communications.

If caught misusing your government computer, disciplinary action can be taken against you. For military members, this typically means an Article 15 or letter of reprimand, depending on the nature and severity of the misuse.

Beyond the immediate punishment, disciplinary action can also have lasting career consequences. It can effectively limit your ability to compete for promotion or a command assignment. It may also trigger removal from a promotion and/or professional military education list, or even result in administrative separation. For civilians, the consequences can be equally significant under the civilian disciplinary system.

If you need to use a computer for personal business and you don't have one at home, please consider that most local and on-base libraries now have free computer and Internet access available for card holders to use. There are also commercial vendors who provide computers and Internet access for an hourly fee.

My message in pointing these things out to you is not to lecture, but simply to ask you to think twice every time you use your government computer. Monitoring systems are in place that can, and do, track what you send, as well as which Internet sites you visit. Please don't take a chance on potentially ruining the career you have spent a lifetime building. It's simply not a risk worth taking. □

## Bottom line: busy

**Jim Garamone**

American Forces Press Service

**M**any service members are not sure what "optempo" and "perstempo" are, except they know they don't like them high.

The terms are related, and service members and even some Department of Defense officials use them interchangeably. The fact is, they're not the same.

A tempo is a musical term

## Racy pace fuels 'tempo' military jargon — what does it all mean?

meaning the speed at which a piece is played. The word's definition over time has expanded to mean the pace of an activity, as in the "tempo of everyday life is getting faster."

DOD adopted "operations tempo" as a measure of the pace of an operation or operations in terms of equipment usage — aircraft "flying hours," ship "steaming days" or "tank miles." In the military way, the term became jargon: optempo.

Obviously, optempo increases with intensity of and number of operations.

**Maria Hughes**, senior readiness analyst in the Pentagon, said services generally define personnel tempo — "perstempo" — as the time an individual spends away from home station. Each service measures somewhat differently. Optempo and perstempo seem the same because they often rise and fall together, but they don't have to.

Got that straight? Now, complicating the situation are two new terms officials are starting to use:

(BUSY, continued on Page 10)

## Air Force

### Officer in-residence courses earn graduate degrees

Officers attending Air Command and Staff College or Air War College now earn master's degrees, beginning with June 1999 graduates.

ACSC in-residence graduates will be awarded a master's in military operational art and science, and AWC in-residence graduates will earn a master's of strategic studies. (*Air Force Print News*)

### Pilot refuses anthrax shot

An C-5 pilot assigned to Dover Air Force Base, Del., requested and accepted nonjudicial punishment proceedings under Article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

**Maj. Sonnie Bates**, ordered to receive his first anthrax immunization Dec. 1, stands accused of disobeying a lawful order from a superior officer. If his commander determines punishment is appropriate, the maximum penalty is forfeiture of one-half pay for two months, 60 days restriction, 30 days arrest in quarters and a reprimand. (*AFPN*)

## Reserve

### Military leave rules change

Federal civil service employees who also serve as reservists may now use military leave to perform inactive duty for training.

This entitlement was authorized in October's defense act but procedures were not finalized until Jan. 24. Employees may request adjustments to their leave account retroactive to Oct. 5.

Rules governing taking military leave for IDT are the same as for active duty for training. They include but are not limited to the following:

- Leave must be taken in calendar-day increments.
- Military leave may be intermingled with annual leave, leave without pay, compensatory time off or credit hours.
- Employees on a compressed work schedule — four 10-hour days, or five nine-hour days the first week and four nine-hour days the second week — who take leave for one-week tours are not charged military leave on their scheduled days off if those days off are at the beginning or end of the tour.

• Employees must use military leave to cover all intervening non-workdays, including holidays and scheduled days off, if they use military leave to cover any day of their military duty. This applies to all military duty covered by military leave. (*Air Force Reserve Command News Service*)

## Local

### Volunteers needed

The 934th Recruiting Office needs six volunteers to assist in the Maplewood, Minn., "Spring Cleanup," Saturday, April 8, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Reserve T-shirts will be supplied by the recruiters as the uniform of the day. Lunch will be supplied by the City of Maplewood. The event

is hosted by Maplewood City Hall Community Services.

☎To sign up or get more information, call **Tech. Sgt. Candy Sommers**, office manager of the Air Force Reserve satellite recruiting station in Maplewood, (651) 773-3738. The station is located across from Maplewood Mall at 2950 White Bear Avenue.

### Campaign ends successfully

The 1999 Combined Federal Campaign, headed by wing project officer **Capt. Bonnie Tremblett**, 934th Mission Enhancement, received a record number of contributions: \$21,000. The wing was recognized and awarded a plaque at a luncheon Jan. 26.

Tremblett said the Department of Defense police force here achieved 100 percent participation for the eighth year in a row. The area unit representative is **Officer Larry Ryan**.

### Recruiters offer literature racks

The 934th Recruiting Office has small display racks with recruiting literature available for reservists to place in a civilian workplace or store.

If a person joins the Reserve as a result of that literature rack, the member receives credit in the "Get One" program, winning a notebook portfolio with calculator.

☎Interested reservists may pick up a rack at the recruiting office in Bldg. 760 or call Ext. 5627. Potential recruits may call (612) 713-JOBS for information on Reserve careers.

### Wing military ball planned

A military ball is planned for Saturday, Sept. 9, hosted by the 934th Operations Group.

Details are in progress regarding the location and featured band. The event will be formal.

☒For more information, watch the military ball Web site, located on the base intranet.

### Chief heads local memorial drive

**Chief Master Sgt. Tom Foss**, 96th Airlift Squadron chief loadmaster, has been selected as the wing point of contact for the VFW World War II Memorial Program.

Ground breaking for the memorial in Washington, D.C., should be before next Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

The VFW has pledged \$2.5 million to match 50 percent of each donation to their memorial fund. Anyone donating \$100 or more receives a certificate, lapel pin and newsletter.

☒To make a donation, see the VFW Web site at:

[www.vfw.org/ww2/ww2onex.shtml](http://www.vfw.org/ww2/ww2onex.shtml)

☎For more information, call Foss, Ext. 1718.

### Lodging rates raised slightly

Lodging rates were raised recently throughout the command to help fund upgrade of all lodging facilities.

Prices rose from \$14.50 to \$15.50 per night for regular accommodations, and from \$21 to \$22 per night for distinguished visitor and chief/senior noncommissioned officer quarters. ☐

# Identity 'crisis'

**A**s the Air Force continues its transition to the expeditionary aerospace force, it is focusing its identity to help with recruiting and retention in the new millennium.

As part of this effort, officials said they are working to establish a single, compelling theme and symbol to represent the Air Force to its members and the public.

"We want to ensure our core identity is part of our culture and is understood by our own people and the citizens we serve," said **Gen. Michael Ryan**, Air Force chief of staff.

"We know who we are and what we do," he said. "We want others to know, and we want them to support our Air Force."

"We know Air Force men and women take great pride in what they do," said **Whit Peters**, secretary of the Air Force. "Our identity effort crystallizes what they're thinking. It will foster unity in the Air Force and help the American public understand the worthy work we do – from fighting the nation's wars to peacekeeping to humanitarian relief."

How is the Air Force determining how to express its identity? "By doing a lot of research," said **Col. Ron Rand**, Air Force director of public affairs.

With the help of a private corporate identity firm, Siegel & Gale, the Air Force spent the past year conducting research among the service and the public.

The Air Force committed approximately \$150,000 to research internal and external audiences to determine current understanding and beliefs held about the Air Force, and approximately \$655,000 to hire Siegel & Gale to help interpret the research and ensure its identity is effectively communicated to Air Force members and potential recruits.

"Since last February, we've conducted seven surveys, held 68 focus groups and interviewed 13

## Air Force seeks symbol to reflect heritage, future

retired four-star generals and 110 other people," Rand said. "We've taken input from about 10,000 people. Of this number, 7,500 were enlisted members, officers, and civilians in the active force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve. The other 2,500 were members of the general public."

This extensive research was used to find strengths and weaknesses in Air Force identity, Rand said. "We found that our people generally feel allegiance to the unit they belong to and to their job, more than they feel part of one big organization."

Research also showed there was little consistency in Air Force visual representation.

"If you look at our base welcome signs, you don't get as much a sense of the Air Force as you do of the units behind the gates," Rand said. "The same applies to our aircraft, our newspapers and home pages, and even our uniforms."

"Unless you have really good eyes and can read the U.S. Air Force tape on someone's battle dress uniform, you may not know what service he or she represents," he continued. "As for our aircraft, which are seen by millions of people, the tail markings tend to represent the wing and the command. You have to look pretty hard to see U.S. Air Force on our aircraft."

To overcome these inconsistencies, Siegel & Gale recommended the focus of the identity be the vital mission the Air Force performs around the world, because it was the theme surfacing with the most passion throughout the research.

In characterizing the mission,



**U.S. AIR FORCE**

*Artist's rendition of proposed logo*

Siegel & Gale concluded the Air Force is a world-class, mission-ready organization. From this, they recommended the theme "World Ready." They also devised a symbol that captured both the heritage and future of the Air Force.

While theme alternatives are still in development, the proposed symbol updates the Hap Arnold wings and star with a more modern, angular design.

"Many people believe the Hap Arnold emblem is the official Air Force symbol, but it isn't," Rand said. "We don't have an official symbol, and never have had one. With the transition to the EAF and a new millennium, our leadership decided the timing is right to modernize our identity and give us an official symbol which will preserve the heritage of the Arnold wings."

Don't expect to see changes throughout the Air Force immediately, according to Rand. "There are no final decisions on any of this yet," he said.

"There is no intent to repaint the fleet or change all our base signs overnight," Ryan said. "When we reach a final decision on our identity, we're going to try it on for awhile as we develop a plan to roll it out with minimal disruption and cost."

"We're trying to encapsulate the essence of what it means to be in the Air Force," Peters said. "The Air Force is a wonderful organization. It offers extraordinary opportunities beyond the monetary and the educational benefits that we have been using in recruiting." (*Air Force Print News*, "must run")□

# Staff Sgt. Harry Nesje



Nesje

Four enlisted members honored as 934th Airlift Wing's best of the best

**Honor:** 934th Airlift Wing Airman of the Year 1999 (promoted to staff sergeant in January).  
**Unit:** 27th Aerial Port Squadron.  
**Education:** Completed three years at Winona State University, Winona, Minn.  
**Civilian occupation:** Larson Storm Door Manufacturing Company, Lake Mills, Iowa.  
**Professional organizations:** Air Force Sergeants Association.  
**Hobbies:** Hunting, fishing, home improvement.  
**Goals:** "Parachuting in the year 2000; complete air transportation degree through the Community College of the Air Force."  
**Family:** Significant other, Cheryl Wilson, and son, Nick, 9; children, Levi Nesje, 8, and Dustin Nesje, 5; extended family, Jeremiah, 14, and Nathan, 13.  
**Comments:** "I feel honored to



Courtesy photo

From left, Nesje; son, Dustin; significant other, Cheryl Wilson; and sons, Nick and Levi.

have been nominated and to have received this award. I believe that teamwork begins with individual responsibility. If awards like this are based on the individual's contributions, then it has been my honor to help, because I have received many professional and personal gains at the 934th." □

# Senior Master Sgt. Patricia Boettner



Courtesy photo

Boettner, left; her husband, David, right; with Ben.

**Honor:** 934th Airlift Wing First Sergeant of the Year 1999.  
**Unit:** 934th Mission Support Flight, also first sergeant for wing headquarters section.  
**Education:** Bachelor's in business administration, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, Minn.; associate's in business administration, Community College of the Air Force.  
**Civilian occupation:** Financial analysis officer, 934th AW.  
**Professional organizations:** Air Force Sergeants Association,

Fraternal Order of the Eagles, active volunteer for the Humane Society.  
**Hobbies:** Golf, fishing, reading, softball.



Boettner

**Goals:** "To finish my second Community College of the Air Force degree by the end of 2000 and to beat my husband in a game of golf."  
**Family:** Husband, David; live in Chisago City, Minn.  
**Comments:** "It's an honor to get special recognition for a job that I thoroughly enjoy." □

## Staff Sgt. Brady Kiel

**Honor:** 934th Airlift Wing Noncommissioned Officer of the Year 1999.

**Unit:** 27th Aerial Port Squadron. (Has now transferred to the 440th AW, Milwaukee, Wis.)

**Education:** Bachelor's in German and social science, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, Wis.

**Civilian occupation:** Seventh-grade teacher, German and social studies, Shattuck Middle School, Neenah, Wis.

**Hobbies:** Family activities,

reading, travel, Web site building for the classroom.

**Goals:** "I want to complete more professional development, read more classics of literature and keep these and future goals in my family's best interest."

**Family:** Wife, **Lori**; children, **Emma**, 3, and **Jack**, 1.

**Comments:** "I am very grateful to those who felt I deserved this. I hope it sheds more light on the 27th APS and many other positive things happening there." □



*Kiel*

## Master Sgt. David Hammer



*Hammer*

**Honor:** 934th Airlift Wing Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year 1999.

**Unit:** 934th Airlift Wing, historian.

**Education:**

Bachelor's in liberal arts, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, Minn.; associate's in computer technology, Normandale Community College, Bloomington, Minn.; associate's in avionics systems technology, Community College of the Air Force.

**Civilian occupation:** Webmaster, Minnesota Department of Economic Security, St. Paul; lieutenant and honor guard commander, Eagan Fire Department, Eagan, Minn.

**Professional organizations:** Air Force Sergeants Association; Air Force Association; Boy Scouts of America, assistant scoutmaster; Order of the Arrow; wing honor guard.



*Courtesy photo*

*Clockwise from back left, Hammer; daughter, Natalie; wife, Denise; son Nicholas; and daughter, Stephanie.*

**Hobbies:** Photography, camping.

**Goals:** "Work on a book that documents the wing history, work on a better display area for the wing headquarters lobby and get the last two wing units an approved emblem."

**Family:** Wife, **Denise**; children, **Natalie**, 17, **Nicholas**, 12, and **Stephanie**, 10; live in Eagan.

**Comments:** "While I have reaped many awards in 1999, they really belong to everyone in the wing. The help, assistance and information I receive to write the wing history make it an outstanding document. Without help, my report would be nothing." □

# Wing roundup



*Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly*

## 27th Aerial Port Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson*  
Unit members palletized 15 aircraft pallets of humanitarian cargo destined for Jamaica. The load, weighing approximately 48,000 pounds, is scheduled for airlift Feb. 18 via C-17 Globemaster. Three members participated in the wing's exhibit at the Mall of America Government on Display, Feb. 5-6.

## 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

*Staff Sgt. Shana Strozewski*  
The flyers headed to Key West, Fla., for water survival training, while the ground crews had training at home station. Thanks go to aerial port members for providing pallet building and forklift training.

## 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

*Staff Sgt. Gino Marchetti*  
No exercises or inspections are scheduled at present. The unit continued performing required physicals.

## 96th Airlift Squadron

*1st Lt. Scott Brady*  
About half the squadron's members went to Key West, Fla., for water survival training.

## 934th Civil Engineer Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Randy Matthews*  
Ten members from various shops deployed to Incirlik

Air Base, Turkey, and San Vito, Italy, in support of the Air Expeditionary Force. The fire station conference room received some improvements in February, as the structures shop built an entryway and the electrical shop wired air conditioning, lighting and other miscellaneous circuits. Several squadron members participated in setup, operation and breakdown of the wing exhibit at the "Government on Display" event at the Mall of America, Feb. 5-6.

## 934th Communications Flight

*Senior Master Sgt. Karen Wilson*  
The flight is holding planning sessions to get the deployable local area network system up and running during its annual tour in April. Two members served on an honor guard that posted the flag at a naturalization ceremony held at the Government on Display exhibit at the Mall of America, Saturday, Feb. 5.

## 934th Logistics Support Squadron

*Master Sgt. John Bruns*  
Forty members deployed to Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., for annual tour, Feb. 5-19. While training, members also assisted the active force in

Red Flag operations. Specialties included supply, transportation and fuels.

## 934th Maintenance Squadron

*Tech. Sgt. Steven Lerbakken*  
Maintenance members launched an aircraft to Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., providing airlift for the 934th Logistics Support Squadron's annual tour. The electronic countermeasures section performed a time compliance technical order on one of the aircraft. The remainder of February drill was used to perform inspections on the flightline and the isochronal hangar.

## 934th Operations Support Flight

*Master Sgt. Cara Utecht*  
*Tech. Sgt. Vern Beal*  
traveled to Australia to help with mail delivery between the January and February drills. Base operations now has a new, electronic marquee on the flightline side of the building for welcoming visitors and providing information for incoming crews.

## 934th Security Forces Squadron

*Staff Sgt. Tom Theis*  
Security forces apprehended two people on outstanding warrants in December. Twenty-nine members signed up for a community blood drive in January. The Department of Defense forces participated in a high school shadow program for a student interested in an Air Force law enforcement career.

## 934th Services Squadron

*Airmen 1st Class Kristen Maloney and Melissa Putnam*  
Services competed for the Hennessy Award during the February drill.



## Wing around the world: March

- 27th APS:** Texas
- 934th AES:** Illinois, Texas
- 96th AS:** Florida, Jamaica, Mississippi, Puerto Rico
- 934th ASTS:** Texas
- 934th AW HQ/MSF:** Georgia, Florida, Puerto Rico, Spain
- 934th CES:** Arizona, Italy, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, Texas, Turkey
- 934th CF:** Mississippi
- 934th LSS:** No travel
- 934th MXS:** Bahamas, Florida, Jamaica, Mississippi, Puerto Rico
- 934th OSF:** Florida
- 934th SFS:** Kuwait, Texas
- 934th SVS:** Saudi Arabia

*This list shows official travel destinations for wing members, via commercial or military transportation. Call the 96th Airlift Squadron, Ext. 1741, or the local Air National Guard wing, Ext. 2450, for space available travel information. □*

## Wing Headquarters/ 934th Mission Support Flight

*Senior Master Sgt. Patty Boettner*  
The financial management division conducted a full-blown field training exercise. Reservists set up a mock finance operation and received training on all areas required for a deployed finance office. □

# Hail to the chief

## Chief Master Sgt. Charles Lowe II visits wing members

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams  
Public Affairs

*Editor's note: Chief Master Sgt. Charles Lowe II, 22nd Air Force command chief master sergeant, visited Feb. 3-6.*

**Q: What is your job at the 22nd Air Force?**

**A:** My job is to go around and see what kinds of conditions you're working in, see how morale is and learn about the kinds of problems that arise. I'm also there for people to vent to, and I bring suggestions up to the commander, **Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr.**

If some of the facilities here are really run down and you need money to fix that, or if you have a program here that another unit could use, I bring that kind of information back to the commander. I pass on the good things as well as the bad. He may not see these things when he comes out to visit.

**Q: What do you plan on accomplishing during this tour of the 934th?**

**A:** I have no set agenda. When I go out to a unit, there's nothing I plan on doing other than seeing the individuals. I like to visit every squadron of every unit and talk to the people. I try to give everybody the opportunity to voice their concerns so I can hear them and take them back to the commander. I really enjoy getting out and seeing where people work.

**Q: What has been the secret of your success?**

**A:** I don't think there really is a secret. I just planned my career from the beginning. I looked ahead and saw what was important. I didn't wait until the last minute to do it. I prepared myself for when any opportunity became available and had all of the blocks and squares filled in. A lot of people wait for the last minute, and then they find out they have to do this and have to do that. They miss out on a lot of things because they didn't prepare themselves.

You also have to do the best you can in all of the jobs you have and enjoy what you're doing.

**Q: Which mentor contributed most to your career?**

**A:** I don't have just one mentor. I try to take the best I can find in different individuals that I had as supervisors and commanders. There are things I like about each one and I use those qualities myself. You can always have more than one mentor.

Today, we'll tell you that you need a mentor and we'll assign you one. That's not really a mentor. You have to select your own. Benjamin Franklin can be your mentor, and you get that by going to your local library. I had a couple of commanders who really helped me when I was a first sergeant. They were fair and taught me how to get my

**Chief Master Sgt. Charles Lowe II**



Lowe

**Position:** Command chief master sergeant, 22nd Air Force.

**Years of service:** 31, including four years of active duty.

**Military career:** Active duty in radar avionics, Reserve in guidance/control, first sergeant and senior enlisted advisor, all at Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. Assumed present position June 1999.

facts and create a paper trail. There were several chiefs who brought me around, too.

**Q: How do you think the enlisted force can better contribute to recruiting and retention?**

**A:** Instead of just the recruiters pulling people off the streets, it's also our job, each and every individual in the Air Force Reserve and here at Minneapolis. If you've got friends out there that you know have prior experience or are just super-good people, we should be out there getting these people into the Reserve.

To retain them, we need to be sure we are out there thanking our reservists each weekend that they come in. What a lot of them need is a thank you for being a part of this unit.

**Q: Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch recently suggested, "We should all go back and dust off the foundation we were provided at Basic Military Training." What are your thoughts regarding this statement?**

**A:** As far as maybe going back to the basics of what we learned in basic training, we get away from that and need to be "re-blued" every once in awhile. We forget that we are military and are a part of the seamless Air Force and should be able to fit in with any unit.

If it means going back to wearing our uniforms just like we're supposed to, cutting our hair just like we're supposed to, then maybe we should. Re-bluing is just a part of that. We have to get back to the basics of being military people.

**Q: Do you have anything you would like to add?**

**A:** I love this job and enjoy getting out and seeing what people do at all the different wings. I see so many good programs that some units do and others lack. It's so comforting to go out and visit with all of these units. We've got 25,000 people in the 22nd Air Force, so you know that I love coming out and doing this work. □

## Outstanding performance

### Squadron, individuals proceed in competition

**T**he 27th Aerial Port Squadron won five of seven aerial port unit and individual awards for 1999 at 22nd Air Force level.

The squadron won honors as the Air Reserve Component Aerial Port Unit of the Year. Individuals achieving recognition included:

- **Michael Dressen**, Air Force Transportation Civilian Employee of the Year;
- **Capt. David Mattson**, Air Reserve Component Transportation Company Grade Officer of the Year;
- **Staff Sgt. Richard Rowcliffe**, Air Reserve Component Transportation Noncommissioned Officer of the Year; and
- **Senior Master Sgt. Tracy Tratar**, Air Reserve Component Transportation Senior NCO Officer of the Year.

Winners now compete at Air Force Reserve Command level. □

## Busy ...

(Continued from Page 3)

"worktempo" and "deptempo."

Worktempo is newer of the two. It is generally defined as the pace of work military people experience at home station. In general, when a unit deploys, members staying at home see a worktempo increase. Likewise, units preparing for deployment have an increase in worktempo prior to departure.

Deptempo stands for deployment tempo. It's generally a measure of the number of days in one month that a unit would have to deploy to accomplish assigned training or operational missions. Scarce units in periods of high demand — for instance, Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft units — tend to have high deptempos.

So now you know what the DOD jargon means. □

## Medals

### Meritorious Service Medal

Master Sgt. Allen Johnson, SVS, retired  
Tech. Sgt. Steven Jones, AES

### Air Force Commendation Medal

Staff Sgt. Diane Johnson, MXS, first oak leaf cluster  
Staff Sgt. Shirley Smith, AS  
1st Lt. Glenn Spotto, APS, first OLC

## Promotions

Col. Kristin Rudin, MSF

## Newcomers

- Senior Airman Kevin Aubart, AW, *prior service Army National Guard*
- Capt. Melanie Benter, AES, *Air Reserve Personnel Center, Denver*
- Capt. Richard Goodwin, ASTS, *non-prior service*
- Senior Airman Joseph McAllister, SFS, *Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.*
- Staff Sgt. Donald Paserba Jr., APS, *March Air Reserve Base, Calif.*
- Staff Sgt. Matthew Ripplinger, CES, *Cannon AFB, N.M.*
- Maj. Kenneth Rogers, AS, *Barksdale AFB, La.*
- Airman 1st Class Aaron Ross, ASTS, *non-prior service*
- Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Schiller, ASTS, *Maxwell AFB, Ala.*
- Capt. William Short, AW, *March ARB, Calif.*
- Staff Sgt. Sean Thiery, CES, *McConnell AFB, Kansas*

## Air reserve technicians

- Tech. Sgt. John Peterson, SFS, *from local, traditional position*
- Tech. Sgt. James Regner, MXS, *Homestead ARB, Fla.*
- Tech. Sgt. Sandra Regner, MXS, *Homestead ARB*

## Education

- **Airman David Dachs Jr.**, CES, graduated from the engineering assistant technical school at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., as honor graduate.
- **Staff Sgt. Steve Hawkins**, CES, was selected as the honor graduate of the heating, ventilation, air

conditioning/  
refrigeration  
course,  
Sheppard Air  
Force Base,  
Texas, June 1-  
Nov. 18, 1999.



- **Staff Sgt. Bruce Rineer**, OSF, completed his three-skill level course at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., as the distinguished graduate.

## Hawkins

## Reenlistments

Reenlistment information has not been available from the military personnel flight for December through February.

## Commander's coins

Commander's coins are presented by the wing commander to deserving members following recommendation by unit commanders and chiefs. The coins recognize outstanding professionalism and dedication. Members recognized in February include:

- Senior Airman Thu-mai Christian, CF
- Master Sgt. Charlie Epps III, CF
- Staff Sgt. Anthony Gramse, SFS
- Tech. Sgt. Alvin Greener, SVS
- Master Sgt. Ronald Knutson, SVS
- Senior Airman Nanette Maglinao, CES
- Tech. Sgt. Kenneth Olson, SFS
- Staff Sgt. James Rutz, SVS
- Master Sgt. Adan Sylva, APS
- Senior Master Sgt. Tracy Tratar, APS
- Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Wills, OSF

## Births

**Karla White**, OSF, and her husband, **Richard**, have a new daughter, **Julianna Katherine**, born Dec. 14, weighing 8 pounds, 8 ounces.

## Retirements

Tech. Sgt. Douglas Johnson, LSS, 20 years

(Editor's note: Retiree outprocessing checklists now include a quick stop at public affairs, Bldg. 852, for an optional photo, hometown news release and Viking Flyer subscription form.) □

# Command honors

**Viking Flyer places second in Reserve newspapers for 1999, top wing magazine**

The 934th Airlift Wing *Viking Flyer* was selected as the command's second-place newspaper in Air Force Reserve Command competition for 1999. The paper now competes in the 44th annual Air Force Print Media Contest at Kelly Air Force Base, Texas, Feb. 27-29.

The command's top newspaper is *Associate Press*, 446th AW, McChord AFB, Wash.

*Viking Flyer* also was selected as the Reserve's top magazine-format newspaper, followed by *Mohawk*, 442nd Fighter Wing, Whiteman AFB, Mo.; and *Airstream*, 910th AW, Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio.

One hundred thirty-eight entries from 25 AFRC units competed in the command contest. Judges were **Edmund Arnold**, noted newspaper designer and educator; **Col. Chuck**



**Cooper**, retired, former Air Force chief of media relations and internal information at the Pentagon; and **Chief Master Sgt. Vickie Graham**, retired, former senior staff writer for *Airman* magazine. (*AFRC News Service*)□

## Viking Victors:

### Capt. Maureen Banavige

**Honor:** 934th Airlift Wing Company Grade Officer of the Year 1999.

**Unit:** 934th Logistics Support Squadron, commander.

**Education:** Master's in business administration, Boston University; bachelor's in applied mathematics, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass.

**Civilian occupation:** Full-time mother.

**Professional organizations:** Reserve Officers Association.

**Hobbies:** Travel, biking, golf.

**Goals:** "To have a positive effect on the unit's performance and readiness and to take advantage of talents of unit members."

**Family:** Husband, **Joe**; children, **Ben**, 4, **Jeb**, 22 months, and **Maeve**, 3 months.

**Comments:** "Thanks to all of the folks in LSS – it's easy to look good when they do such a great job."



Banavige

Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz



Knish

Cherie Huntington

### Randy Knish

**Honor:** Air Force Reserve Command Resource Advisor of the Year 1999.

**Unit:** 934th Base Civil Engineering.

**Military service:** Retired senior master sergeant, 934th Civil Engineer Squadron.

**Education:** Bachelor's in business administration, Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, Minn.; associate's in maintenance production management, Community College of the Air Force.

**Professional organizations:** Air Force Sergeants Association, American Legion Post 108, Isaac Walton League of America.

**Hobbies:** Golfing, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, pouring concrete.

**Goals:** "To complete my master's in business administration and keep my golf game under 100 this year."

**Comments:** "I would like to thank my immediate supervisor, **Gary Gustafson**, and the base financial management budget officer, **Patty Boettner**, for recognizing me for this award and taking the time to write up and submit my package."□

# Volunteer spotlight

## Military retiree couple enjoys working at family readiness center

**C**apt. **John Petersen**, retired, and his wife, **Mary Ann**, were selected as family readiness volunteers of the quarter.

John retired from the military after serving 16 years in the Air Force and four years in the Army. They began volunteering at the 934th Family Readiness Center about a year and a half ago after finding out about the need for volunteers at the Annual Retirees Activities Day at the Fort Snelling Historical Center, Minneapolis.

John and Mary Ann live in Albert Lea, Minn., and coordinate their volunteer time at the FRC with their scheduled appointments at the nearby Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Previously they volunteered at Fort McCoy, Wis., helping publish a retiree newsletter.

They have helped with several administrative projects at the FRC and

attended computer classes. Other retirees from Albert Lea have stopped by the center and said they heard about FRC services from the couple.

Last summer, the Petersens presented the Friends of Family Readiness a donation of \$200 from the Disabled American Veterans from Albert Lea.

They enjoy volunteering for the military and spend a lot of time traveling and visiting U.S. military installations. They appreciate what the military offers to retirees and volunteer to "give back" to the military community for benefits they have received from serving their country.

"We appreciate the offerings of the family readiness center at the 934th Airlift Wing," they said, "and we think **Patricia Botkins** [chief of family readiness] is a very special



Cherie Huntington

### The Petersens

person along with all the other volunteers we work with. We plan to continue helping as much as we can. It is a wonderful benefit for us all."

"We truly appreciate the dedicated volunteer contributions John and Mary Ann have made," said Botkins. □

## Fun & leisure

### NCO Club

• **AT&T disc jockey with Mike Trujillo** is featured Saturday, March 4. Mike will play a variety of favorite songs. Show time is 8:30 p.m.

• **St. Patrick's Day dinner** is set for Friday, March 17. Enjoy this traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner. Wear a green shirt and receive 10 percent off the meal.

• **Two-for-one filet mignon and shrimp dinner special** will be offered on Tuesday, March 21. Call for a reservation. Don't forget to clip the coupon from the monthly calendar.

• **Advisory Council meetings** are open to any club member to discuss club issues.

☎Call Ext. 1655 for details.

### Officers Club

• **All you can eat crab legs** is featured for Saturday, March 11. Call for a reservation. You must be a club member to enjoy this great deal.

• **St. Patrick's Day lunch and dinner** are set for Friday, March 17. The lunch special is grilled reubens and corned beef hash, and the dinner special is corned beef and cabbage.

• **Tuesday tacos** are featured each Tuesday evening in the lounge, 5:30-8 p.m. For just \$6, enjoy all the tacos

you want, hard shell or soft, plus a beverage of your choice.

☎Call Ext. 3678 or FORT.

### Fitness center

• **Meetings on Saturday, March 4**, at the fitness center, include a 10 a.m. meeting for support representatives and a 1 p.m. meeting for fitness walk monitors.

• **Open basketball play** will be offered during the March drill, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Looking ahead, there will be volleyball open play during the April drill.

• **Fitness Clue**, just like the board game, will offer fun March 14 through April 14. Find out who killed the personal trainer and in what room and with what object. Your workout allows you to play the game.

• **Tickets to many leisure destinations**, such as Disneyland, are available at the fitness center.

• **Honors in the annual bowling outing**, held Feb. 5, went to:

Winning team, score of 502: 934th Security Forces Squadron; **August Funaro, Andrew Kramer, Frank McKay** and **Brian Winter**.

High series, male, score of 637: **Lowell Olson**, 27th Aerial Port Squadron; female, score of 472: **Linda Jimenez**, 934th Airlift Wing, financial management.

High score, male, score of 237: **Scott Larsen**, APS; female, score of 184: **Connie Henke**, supporter.

☎For information, call Ext. 1496 or 1GYM. □